



October 6, 2023

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor of New Jersey
Office of the Governor
Trenton, NJ 08525

Rick Cotton
Executive Director
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
4 World Trade Center
New York, NY 10007

Janno Lieber
Chair and Chief Executive Officer
The Metropolitan Transportation Authority
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dear Governor Hochul, Governor Murphy, Mr. Cotton, and Mr. Lieber:

We write to you as elected officials who represent the West Side of Manhattan and specifically, Hell's Kitchen, regarding infrastructure that has recently been installed for the Central Business District Tolling Program. Although we welcome the implementation of congestion pricing, which will shorten travel times, lead to cleaner air, and provide critical funding for the MTA, we are concerned about the number of gantries that are placed on the streets of Hell's Kitchen around the Lincoln Tunnel entrances and exits.

Community Board 4 is bearing the brunt of the congestion pricing infrastructure, with approximately forty gantries installed on the streets around the Lincoln Tunnel.

Community Board 4 and community leaders have long worked to make the neighborhood livable for residents, despite the major tunnel entrances and exits in the area. Many of these gantries are installed on residential side streets, giving them the feeling of a highway. The gantries are significantly larger and more invasive than streetlights. The installation of these gantries also takes up valuable sidewalk space, which is already extremely limited in Hell's Kitchen.

We understand these were installed on the streets only because of Port Authority's refusal to allow the infrastructure to be installed on their property. If Port Authority had agreed to work with the MTA, the totality of these gantries could have been integrated with existing Lincoln Tunnel infrastructure.

We urge you to work towards a solution where the MTA and the Port Authority will collaborate to install the tolling infrastructure on Lincoln Tunnel property, integrating it into existing infrastructure if necessary, and remove these gantries from the streets of Hell's Kitchen as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman-Sigal
State Senator, District 47



Jerrold Nadler
Congressmember, District 12



Mark Levine
Manhattan Borough President



Linda Rosenthal
Assemblymember, District 67



Tony Simone
Assemblymember, District 75



Erik Bottcher
Councilmember, District 3